"Edwin.J..Hellermann"@fakeaddress.net on 10/02/2001 05:49:31 AM

To: psse@notes.ymp.gov, bonnie.fogdall@notes.ymp.gov
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Subject: PSSE Comment

Part of Records Package / Supplement / Correction

October 02, 2001 05:49:30

IP address: 158.106.50.3

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---> Commentors Name: Mr. Edwin J. Hellermann
---> Organization: Virgina Section - ANS
---> Position: Chairman Emeritus

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---> The Commentors Address:
---> 9189 Bracey Mill Pl.
---> Mechanicsville, Virginia 23116

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---> Email Information:
---> Ed_Hellermann@dom.com
---> Add commentor to the mailing list : yes

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---> phone number : 804-2732486
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---> position : Chairman Emeritus

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--> Comment Text :
SUPPORT FOR THE YUCCA MOUNTAIN PROJECT APPROVAL

The information provided below is in support of the Yucca Mountain Project APPROVAL and also to help Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham endorse a recommendation to President George Bush, for the APPROVAL of the suitability of Yucca Mountain as the Nation's high-level radioactive waste repository.

+ For about two decades, there have been in-depth scientific studies of Yucca Mountain. The studies have covered hydrology, geology, seismology and

more.

+ Throughout these studies, teams of scientists have found no evidence that would disqualify Yucca Mountain as a site for a permanent repository for high

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level radioactive waste.

+ This research has been continually reviewed by regulatory, advisory and scientific peer groups.

+ Earlier reports, such as those from the National Academy of Sciences and the DOE's draft environmental impact statement, have presented a strong case for the development of a repository as the safest and most economical way to dispose of used fuel rods from commercial nuclear power plants and radioactive waste from government use.

+ Storing high level radioactive waste at one location is a better option than continuing to accumulate used fuel at more than 70 sites around the country.

+ The proposed repository would have specially engineered containers for holding high level radioactive waste materials and a robust combination of engineered and natural barriers to protect the environment.

+ The transportation casks for fuel rods, designed and built to withstand rigors, have been put through exhaustive testing, withstanding even the destructive forces of a speeding locomotive. Since the mid-1960s, an outstanding safety record has been compiled with about 3,000 shipments of used fuel.

+ While scientists and government leaders investigate recycling of used fuel and other advanced methods for treating radioactive waste, it is clear that there will still be a need for a repository for the radioactive byproducts of these processes.

+ Legislation enacted in 1982 provided that in exchange for payments into the Nuclear Waste Fund by electricity consumers, the Department of Energy would begin taking spent fuel from utilities by January 31, 1998. That date came and went. Although three federal courts have reaffirmed that DOE has a legal obligation to accept spent fuel, it has accepted none. And, this is despite the fact that consumers of electricity generated by nuclear energy have committed $16 billion to the Nuclear Waste Fund to pay for the repository.

Sincerely,

Edwin J. Hellermann

Virginia Section - ANS

Chairman Emeritus